

SENATE RESOLUTION

8631

By Senators Fain, Wellman, McCoy, Nelson, Llias, Saldaña, Van De Wege, Mullet, Kuderer, Chase, Takko, Cleveland, Frockt, Billig, Conway, Keiser, Pedersen, Rolfes, Ranker, Carlyle, Hasegawa, and Hunt

1 WHEREAS, The spring equinox is celebrated as Nowruz, the Persian
2 New Year, originating in ancient Persia more than 3,000 years ago and
3 this year occurring on March 20th; and

4 WHEREAS, Nowruz is celebrated by nearly 300 million people across
5 the globe of different faiths and diverse communities, and by more
6 than 1,000,000 Iranian-Americans including tens of thousands in
7 Washington state, including those with Baha'i, Christian, Jewish,
8 Muslim, Zoroastrian, and nonreligious backgrounds; and

9 WHEREAS, The United States is a melting pot of ethnicities and
10 religions and Nowruz contributes to the richness of American culture
11 and is consistent with our founding principles of peace and
12 prosperity for all; and

13 WHEREAS, In this time where mistrust and fear often threaten to
14 divide us, the spirit of Nowruz inspires us to realize our
15 commonalities, and strive for new levels of compassion,
16 understanding, and love for our fellow human beings regardless of
17 religion or ethnicity; and

18 WHEREAS, Iranian-Americans have made and continue to make
19 noteworthy and lasting contributions to the social and economic
20 fabric of society in the United States, and Nowruz presents a time to
21 recognize those contributions; and

22 WHEREAS, Iranian-Americans continue to make contributions in all
23 sectors of public life in the United States, including as government,

1 military, and law enforcement officials working to uphold the
2 Constitution of the United States and to protect all people in the
3 United States; and

4 WHEREAS, Nowruz means "New Day," and represents the possibilities
5 of a new season, and the opportunity for renewal of our human spirit;

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate
7 celebrate the honored holiday of Nowruz, recognize the historical and
8 cultural significance thereof, and wish a happy and prosperous new
9 year to all.

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